



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Cameroon

'Hopeful Opposition Party' Plans To Operate

AB1605074690 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 15 May 90

[From "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] With just a day to go before the end of the two month deadline for a reply from the Cameroonian Government, one hopeful opposition party is still waiting for the official green light to start operating. The Bamenda-based Social Democratic Front, SDF, is one of a handful which has applied for registration. And in spite of the silence so far from the Cameroon authorities, it looks as if the front is going to go ahead regardless. From Yaounde, Vincent Sass telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] I called the leader of the SDF, Mr. John Ni Frundi, in Bamenda this morning. He told me that he had not yet received a reply from the Ministry of Territorial Administration. He said, however, that he did get a letter from the governor of Northwest Province, Mr. Magloire Nguimba. This letter warned him that a 1967 law on associations prohibits anyone from starting an association without official permission. My opinion, said Mr. Ni Frundi, is that this letter can be considered as an acknowledgment of receipt of my application. It implies, he continued, that the authorities have received my application. So, it is now perfectly legal to start my party's activities.

Originally, this start was set for tomorrow, but Mr. Ni Frundi said he did not want to disturb preparations of Cameroon's national day. Also, Mr. Ni Frundi explained, party manifestoes and membership application forms were still at the printer's. D-day will, therefore, be Saturday, the 26th of May, at 1500 hours, he said, at a meeting in the Bamenda Municipal stadium. I am very confident, Mr. Ni Frundi said, that the authorities will grant me permission to hold this meeting. The Social Democratic Front is reported to be [words indistinct]. Its main platform, he said, was to create a multi-party system, mostly to get the checks and the balances that come with it and thus stop corruption and abuse of power. In a recent speech to the nation, President Paul Biya said he was against the multi-party system for the time being.

Meanwhile, observers in Bamenda report that hundreds of soldiers have been brought into the Bamenda region, apparently to hold military maneuvers. The troops pass frequently through the town, which is reported to be considered provocative by the population. We feel extremely bitter, one source said, because of the maneuvers they had held for several days in front of the residence of the former speaker of the National Assembly. This is the now retired Mr. Solomon Tanden Muna, the most important political personality of the English-speaking part of Cameroon, and the father of the current president of the Cameroonian Bar Association, Mr. Bernard Muna, who declared himself, recently, a

supporter of the Social Democratic Front at a public meeting in Douala. [end recording]

Central African Republic

Kolingba Opens Party Meeting on Multiparty Debate

AB1405075890 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] What is thought about political pluralism in the Central African Republic? General Andre Kolingba, the Central African Republic head of state, today opened an extraordinary session of the Permanent Committee of the Central African Democratic Rally [RDC], the ruling and only party. The temptation to reproduce situations that have arisen elsewhere is great, the Central African Republic president stated in his opening address. However, we would be committing serious mistakes if we did not analyze these situations concretely in line with our own realities, added President Kolingba.

The RDC [words indistinct] of which President Kolingba is the founder, is expected to bring together all the forces of the country, regardless of the particularities and differences inherited from history. Gen. Kolingba said [words indistinct] it has rather made great efforts that have made us worthy of the confidence of financing institutions.

Chad

Foreign Ministry Denies Chadians Flee to Sudan

AB1505202090 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] We have a communique from the Ministry of External Affairs concerning the campaign of lies orchestrated by Tripoli and Khartoum.

Indeed, in a declaration, the Sudanese Government—in the voice of its commissioner of refugees, General 'Abd al-Rahma Sirr al-Kitam—has just stated that, as a result of the fighting on the Chad-Sudan border between the Chadian National Armed Forces and the forces of the Islamic Legion in the pay of Libya, several thousand Chadians have taken refuge in Sudan. The Sudanese Government immediately appealed to international humanitarian organizations to come to the aid of these refugees.

The Chadian Government deems it necessary to deny categorically these allegations by the Khartoum government. No Chadian has crossed the border to (?try to) find refuge in Sudan. On the contrary, many Chadians who have lived in that country for many years are returning daily to Chad as a result of the serious economic and social crisis affecting several towns in Sudan. Evidently, the Sudanese Government, which is in complete disarray, is inventing Chadian refugees to extort aid from humanitarian organizations. This is not the first time,

moreover, that the Sudanese leaders have resorted to such subterfuge. That is why the Ministry of External Relations, while denouncing the assertions of the Khartoum government, wants to bring the shameful practices of that government to the notice of international public opinion.

Rwanda

Cooperation Accord With Congolese Party Signed

*EA1505134290 Kigali Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 12 May 90*

[Text] Strengthening friendship and fraternity: that is the aim of the 1991-92 two-year program of cooperation signed in Kigali today by the National Revolutionary Development Movement [MRND] and the Congolese Labor Party [PCT], whose delegation has been in our country since 9 May. The program was signed, jointly, by Comrade Jean-Francois Kibinda Kwangu, head of the PCT delegation to Kigali, and Edouard Karemera, a militant member of the MRND Central Committee and deputy of the Rwandan National Development Council, on the Rwandan side. The ceremony was organized at the Kigali MRND headquarters, in the presence of the Rwandan Women's Organization [URAMA] secretary general, Mrs. Louise Antoinette Mukasine.

The cooperation program provides for an exchange of delegations between the two political organizations. That is why next year, the PCT Central Committee will meet a high-ranking delegation of the MRND Central Committee in Brazzaville, the Congolese capital, for talks related to matters of common interest. They will study ways of strengthening cooperation between the PCT mass organizations and the MRND integrated organization, that is, [word indistinct] and URAMA. The MRND Central Committee delegation in 1992, for consultations

related to matters of common interest, and to prepare the new cooperation program for the period 1993-94. [sentence as heard]

Zaire

Students Clash at Lubumbashi; 'Many' Injured

*AB1605063490 Paris AFP in English 0026 GMT
16 May 90*

[Text] Kinshasa, May 16 (AFP)—A top Zairian Government minister has travelled to the regional capital of Lubumbashi to investigate reports that inter-student clashes there left "many people" injured late last week, the official AZAP news agency said here Tuesday.

The agency, which gave no indication of the nature of the trouble or the number of casualties, said Deputy Prime Minister Ergulu Baangampongo Bakokele Lokanga had travelled to the city, 1,500 kilometres (900 miles) south-east of Kinshasa on Sunday, [13 May]. It said the minister had met local officials and teachers at the university and visited some of those injured in the clashes. He had also set up an official inquiry into the disturbances, staying in Lubumbashi for two days, the agency said. The AZAP dispatch said: "Incidents between students broke out on Sunday and left many people injured."

Students in Zaire have recently been demanding democracy, amid moves by President Mobutu Sese Seko to move away from the present one-party rule and introduce a multi-party system. Earlier this week students in Lubumbashi, and also in the city of Kinsangani, 1,000 kilometres (600 miles) east of the capital, held demonstrations in support of protesting students here in Kinshasa. However no incidents were reported during those protests, which took place on Wednesday in Lubumbashi and the next day in Kinsangani.

Lubumbashi is the capital of Zaire's mineral-rich province of Shaba.

Kenya

Moi Receives Iranian Government Delegation

EA0905191090 Nairobi KNA in English 1200 GMT
8 May 90

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 8 May—His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today received members of an Iranian Government official delegation who paid him a courtesy call at State House Nairobi. The delegation, which was led by the Iranian minister for culture and Islamic guidance, Mr Seyyed Mohammad Khatami also brought greetings and good wishes from President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani of Iran to President Moi and the people of Kenya.

President Moi told the delegation that Kenya appreciated Iranian Government role which led to the release of hostages in Lebanon and hoped that all hostages now being held will be released soon. The president also commended the Iranians for the peace processes they have continued to undertake in their region, adding that people should be given a chance to live in peace and tranquility.

On bilateral relations, President Moi said that exchange of visits by such delegations has strengthened relations between the two countries. Saying that the relations between the two countries were warm and cordial, President Moi said that Kenya will intensify economic and cultural exchange with Iran. They agreed on the need for joint ventures in exploiting the tourism potential between the two countries.

Among those accompanying the Iranian minister was their ambassador to Kenya, Mr Mohammad Sharif Mahdavi, and other Iranian Government officials. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister 'Concern' Over Multiparty Debate

EA1505125290 Nairobi KNA in English 1645 GMT
13 May 90

[Excerpt] Kisumu, 13 May (KNA)—The minister for foreign affairs and international co-operation Mr. Wilson Ndolo Ayah has expressed more concern about African independent countries debating about one or multi-party system before they succeeded in building one independent society to build a nation as one group.

Addressing high commissioners, ambassadors and some representatives of Africa from 14 African countries who visited Nyanza Province during a dinner party at the

Kisumu Sunset [hotel], Mr. Ayah stressed that African leaders should have forgotten what they fought for to get independence for their countries. [sentence as received] The minister, who termed African independent countries debating on multi-party system as a problem of identity which he said was very strange in African countries, added that African leaders had moved away from discussing things as Africans, but instead should have an agenda to discuss their countries' economic development.

The minister, who earlier conveyed greetings from H.E. the President Daniel arap Moi to the diplomats, assured them that they were free to visit any part of the country to view the country's progress and achievements, for Kenya was a free country and had nothing to hide for such visitors.

Mr. Ayah pointed out that those advocating to multi-party system in the country only discussed things of their own. They were not speaking for the majority of Kenyans, adding that multi-party system would only bring tribalism that Kenyans forgot many years back. [passage omitted]

Tanzania

President 'Angered' by University Students

EA1505120590 Dar es Salaam External Service
in English 1600 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] President Ali Hassan Mwinyi today gave details of the developments which led to the closure on Saturday [12 May] of the main campus of the University of Dar es Salaam. He said that the students had boycotted classes, demanding to see him in his capacity as chancellor of the university to air their grievances, which included an increase in their monthly allowances and other demands with political dimension.

He had agreed to meet them during the second week of May, and had advised them to return to classes. But they refused to heed his advice, and instead resumed classes two days later, announcing publicly through the local press that they had done so on their own free will, and not on the president's advice. This, the president said, angered him, and he announced during an inspection tour of the main campus that he was no longer under an obligation to meet the students. After that the students resorted to ridicule national leaders and insults, and a very dangerous situation developed, leading to the closure of the university.

De Klerk Discusses Forthcoming Europe Tour

*LD0905105690 Paris International Service in French
0630 GMT 9 May 90*

[Text] [Presenter] This morning's main event is the first long foreign tour of Frederik de Klerk, South African number one. He is expected in Paris today, on the first leg of a tour that will take him to eight other European countries, an 18-day tour, during which he will try to explain his policy of opening up towards the black community. He will be received by Francois Mitterrand in the Elysee. Shortly before leaving Cape Town yesterday he gave an interview to the first channel of French television, TF1. In the interview, he spoke of the objectives of his visit, his intentions towards the black majority, and finally the problem of economic sanctions against his country. Here he is:

[de Klerk, in English, with superimposed French translation] I am coming to Europe to explain how dynamic the situation in South Africa now is. There is no question that things have moved so fast that a completely new situation has arisen here, full of promise for peaceful solutions.

I am not defending the present system; my idea is indeed to change it and to replace it with a new one. In this matter what counts above all is how, and to a large extent we are agreed that a settlement should be the result of negotiations in which everybody has the opportunity to take part in working out the solution.

Economically we have succeeded in finding in ourselves the strength to handle sanctions. The negative effect of them has been that our growth has not been as fast as it should have been.

[Presenter] That was the South African president yesterday evening on TF1, the first French television channel. So, South Africa expects a lot from French business circles with regard to economic sanctions. (Haye Viljoen), spokesperson of the South African Embassy in Paris, told Farida Ayari so yesterday.

[(Viljoen)] I think French businessmen have also followed developments in South Africa with special, though discreet, interest, and I think French businessmen are loyal to Africa, and in spite of all that may be said, South Africa is part of it. I think they are very interested in the possibilities opening up with the return of South Africa to an African community, its acceptance there. The president will try to get understanding for his policy and his intentions, but it is not his purpose to come and plead for sanctions to be lifted. He is coming to explain this policy, and with the full hope that he will be understood, and that the logical conclusions will be drawn.

Pik Botha Discusses De Klerk Visit to France

*MB0905165090 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1600 GMT 9 May 90*

[Excerpts] The state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, has arrived in France on the first leg of his extended tour of Europe. President de Klerk's chartered Boeing 707 landed at Orly Airport in Paris at about 1200 South African time [1000 GMT]. [passage omitted]

Mr. Pik Botha, meanwhile, emphasized that South Africa would not ask Europe to lift sanctions against it. South Africa's standpoint was that sanctions would disappear naturally as a result of developments in this country. Mr. Botha asked on his arrival in Paris that countries regarded by South Africa as important were accepting President de Klerk and South Africa's bona fides and credibility. [sentence as heard] These countries were also confident that the process that had begun in South Africa was an irreversible one.

On President de Klerk's visit to France in particular, Mr. Botha said it was viewed with the utmost importance. He said France was one of the largest countries in Europe and it was the first time that a French head of state had addressed a South Africa head of state since General Smuts had visited that country as government head.

President de Klerk, who will meet top government officials tomorrow, briefed editors of five of France's largest newspapers this afternoon.

De Klerk Asks Portugal To Help Resolve Conflicts

*MB1405143090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1319 GMT 14 May 90*

[Text] Lisbon May 14 SAPA—Portugal should once again be involved in building bridges in Africa, President F.W. de Klerk said in Lisbon on Monday shortly after he arrived to an official state welcome by President Mario Soares on the third leg of his European tour. Both Portugal and South Africa had an important interest and direct role to play in what happened in southern Africa particularly, he said in an exchange of formal greetings with the Portuguese leader.

Mr de Klerk and his wife, Marike, were treated to a spectacular guard of honour and 21-gun salute on their arrival.

President Mario Soares welcomed Mr de Klerk on the Portella Airport apron as he stepped off the chartered flight from Athens, which was escorted by two Portuguese Air Force jet fighters once it entered the country's airspace. Traffic came to a standstill as the two heads of state were driven into central Lisbon in a 64-car cavalcade to the Imperio Square (Praca do Imperio), where the South African national anthem was played. Mr de Klerk also inspected a massed guard of honour, and a 21 gun salute was fired.

He and President Soares then laid wreaths at the Jeronimos Cathedral on the square, after which they left for the Portuguese leader's historic official residence, the Belem Palace, where the two exchanged formal but warmly worded greetings and exchanged gifts.

President Soares said: "For us this is an important moment, firstly because Mr de Klerk is very much admired in Portugal for his courage on the road to reform, but also because we believe the path you are starting with will lead to peace not only in South Africa, but the world.

"My wife and I are very happy to host you and are sure the majority of the Portuguese people share our views."

Referring to the treatment his son, Joao, received in Pretoria last year after an aircraft accident in Angola, President Soares said: "When I met you in Pretoria in October I felt I was meeting someone who was making history for his country and the world.

"I was witness to sure steps for change in South Africa and Africa, and we discussed the possibility of your visit here."

President Soares said he was sure the 600,000 strong Portuguese community in South Africa was very happy Mr de Klerk was visiting their homeland. "We are grateful for the way our fellow citizens are being treated in South Africa."

Presenting Mr de Klerk with a silver caravelle—commemorating Portugal's seafaring role hundreds of years ago in the discovery of southern Africa—President Soares said he and his wife could not forget how well their son had been treated in hospital in Pretoria, and that his words of welcome "come from the heart." Mrs de Klerk received an antique silver ice bucket.

Responding, Mr de Klerk expressed deep appreciation for his friendly welcome, and said that as a seafaring nation, Portugal had played an important part in South Africa's history. "We are no longer looking for new continents, but for a way of life to make it possible for all people in our country to live in harmony with retention of their dignity and honour...to have a strong common loyalty but retaining pride in their particular cultural heritage.

"I look forward to the rest of this visit, to sharing information and to look to the future of the southern African region.

"Both our countries have an important interest and direct role to play in what will happen."

Referring to his host country's close ties with its former colonies, Angola and Mozambique, he said Portugal should once again be involved in building bridges in Africa. The South African Portuguese community was playing an important role in the country and region's development.

Mr de Klerk presented President Soares with a painting depicting an African theme and the president's wife, Mrs Maria Barosso (uses maiden name) with gold African jewellery.

After a private luncheon with President Soares, Mr de Klerk and Foreign Minister Pik Botha was due to hold talks with Portuguese Premier Cavaco Silva and officials.

Mr de Klerk is being accommodated in the Portuguese Government's state guest house, the Palace of Queluz. President Soares was due to host a state banquet for Mr de Klerk in the evening.

Lisbon's major newspaper, PUBLICO, a moderate publication supporting the socialist government, gave prominent coverage to Mr de Klerk's visit in a front page report and articles on the first five pages. Welcoming the South African leader's arrival under the headline "A Short Time To Convince Europe," it drew a sharp contrast between Mr de Klerk's official state welcome and former President P.W. Botha "sneaking" in unofficially on his last visit in 1986. The newspaper described Mr de Klerk's tour so far to France and Greece, as "devisive in convincing Europe of his sincerity".

De Klerk's Office Confirms U.S. Visit Invitation

MB1505154290 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1500 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] A spokesman for the Office of the State President has confirmed in Cape Town that Mr. F.W. de Klerk has been invited to meet the American President, Mr. George Bush, in Washington. He was commenting on a report in THE WASHINGTON POST that President de Klerk would have talks with Mr. Bush next month, before a scheduled visit to Washington by the deputy president of the ANC [African National Congress], Mr. Nelson Mandela. The newspaper quoted a White House official as saying that Mr. Mandela's visit was expected to follow the meeting between Mr. de Klerk and Mr. Bush on the 18th of next month.

ANC Unhappy Bush Meeting De Klerk, Then Mandela

MB1605084990 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0500 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] ANC [African National Congress] leaders planning Nelson Mandela's visit to the United States are unhappy that President Bush will see State President F.W. de Klerk before he sees Mandela. ANC's spokesman Mendi Msimeng says it will be a slap in the face and an insult to the ANC. He says the ANC believes it is not too late for the State Department to change the arrangement.

De Klerk is due in the U.S. on 18 June, two days ahead of Mandela. The chief ANC representative in the United States, Lindiwe Mbuza, says nothing has changed in South Africa to warrant a visit by De Klerk.

ANC-Aligned Youth Delegation To Visit Moscow*AU1505191790 Paris AFP in English 1858 GMT
15 May 90*

[Text] Johannesburg, May 15 (AFP)—The ANC-aligned South African Youth Congress (SAYCO) is to send a five-member delegation to the Soviet Union next week, the movement announced here Tuesday. A statement from SAYCO said the delegation would meet with Soviet youth representatives to discuss the role of the African youth movement in solving the continent's socio-economic and political problems.

SAYCO would also participate in an international youth seminar, to be attended by youth from Cuba, Vietnam, the United States and the United Kingdom and other countries. Issues to be discussed include the role of youth in a changing South Africa and youth organisations in Europe and Africa.

The visit, scheduled from May 22-27, will be the first of its kind in the ANC's 78-year history.

SAYCO, which boasts a membership of some two million between the ages of 14 and 35, has decided to merge with the African National Congress' Youth League. SAYCO's publicity secretary Parks Mankahlana told Agence France- Presse Tuesday that the move would probably be made before December this year.

Retired SADF, ANC Officers To Meet on Conflict*MB1505181590 Johannesburg SABA in English
1803 GMT 15 May 90*

[Text] Johannesburg May 15 SABA—Retired senior SADF [South African Defense Force] officers, military strategists, and a wide range of people involved in the ANC's [African National Congress] armed struggle will meet in Lusaka late in May to explore ways to end conflict in South Africa and discuss the shape of a future defence force.

The Institute for a Democratic Alternative for SA [IDASA] on Tuesday announced the conference entitled "The Future of Security and Defence in SA" will be held from May 23 to 27. "We hope this conference will benefit the negotiation process by encouraging communication and by publicizing the concerns of both groups," said IDASA Western Cape regional director Mr Nic Borain.

A high-powered 45-member African National Congress delegation to the conference will include SA Communist Party Secretary-General Joe Slovo, ANC foreign affairs chief Thabo Mbeki and Umkhonto we Sizwe [ANC military wing] Commander-in-Chief Chris Hani.

IDASA said 45 people from inside SA including conscripts who recently served in townships and Angola, senior retired SA Defence Force officers, military strategists and citizen force officers had confirmed they

would attend the conference. Homeland military leaders and academic advisors would also attend.

The conference was firstly a peace mission, said Mr Borain. People who had been dedicated to fighting a war against each other would spend four days talking, eating together and sharing their vision of the future. Though people could not be expected to emerge from the conference in complete agreement, hopefully everyone would be able to acknowledge their common humanity which was the first step to real peace, he said. The conference could prevent "tragedies like the one that accompanied SWAPO's [South-West African People's Organization] return home".

Many of the delegates were prominent and influential within SADF [South African Defense Force] circles, but no-one would formally represent the SADF, he said. A formal invitation to the SADF to attend the conference had been turned down, but they would have full access to the proceedings and delegates would be encouraged to report back to SADF-related constituencies.

Constitutional Official Terms Talks 'Only Way'*MB1005190390 Johannesburg SABA in English
1551 GMT 10 May 90*

[Text] Parliament May 10 SABA—The Groote Schuur minute had marked the end of the politics of violence and had established the legitimacy of peaceful negotiations as the only way of creating a new South Africa, the deputy minister of constitutional development, Mr Roelf Meyer, said on Thursday [10 May].

Speaking in the department's vote of the budget, he said the agreement reached between the government and the ANC [African National Congress] did not mean the new South Africa had arrived as there was still a long way to travel. "But last week we took the high road."

The success of the journey would be determined by the parties' adherence to the letter and spirit of the agreement as well as its urgent implementation. The nature of South African politics had been changed irrevocably. It was no longer exclusive, but inclusive.

ANC, AZAPO Officials Debate Negotiations*MB1205074490 Johannesburg SABA in English
2129 GMT 11 May 90*

[Text] Cape Town May 11 SABA—The armed struggle of the African National Congress [ANC] will not be lifted immediately and the organisation will continue to build underground structures, ANC Western Cape Deputy Chairman Trevor Manuel said on Friday. Mr Manuel was speaking at a lively University of the Western Cape debate between himself and AZAPO [Azanian Peoples Organisation] Western and Eastern Cape Secretary Mr Mandie Mtompho on the topic "negotiations: The Final Sellout?".

Mr Manuel told about 600 students in a packed lecture hall the ANC had been responsible for taking the negotiation initiative by drafting the Harare declaration last year. However, Mr Mtompho described the idea of a negotiated settlement as an "imperialistic ploy to subvert the socialist revolution in our country", adding negotiation was designed only to calm white fears and not that of blacks. The Harare declaration, Mr Manuel said, was adopted by the United Nations and the only "Lone Voice" not in favour was Pan Africanist Congress President Mr Zeph Mothopeng.

AZAPO supporters shouts of "one settler, one bullet" were met with derisive laughter from the mainly ANC-supporting audience.

Mr Mtompho said AZAPO's struggle would continue as "if nothing happened".

Democrats Reject ANC Offer To Join United Front

*MB1105191090 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1500 GMT 11 May 90*

[Text] Democratic Party [DP] co-leader Wynand Malan says the DP turned down an offer from the ANC [African National Congress] to join a united patriotic front. Malan said in Parliament the DP turned down the invitation because it would hamper a democratic debate in a two-way confrontation with the government. He says the DP is not looking for confrontation but searching for answers.

Malan was speaking during a debate on the constitutional development budget vote.

Government Drops Homelands' Independence Plans

*MB1605092190 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 16 May 90*

[Text] Independence plans for the remaining six non-independent homelands have been dropped by the South African Government. The government has also confirmed that land earmarked for incorporation into the self-governing states will not be incorporated if the legal inhabitants of the land oppose the move.

Education and Development Aid Minister Stoffel van der Merwe says the government accepts that independence is no longer considered a worthwhile option by the homelands. He says that it also accepts that the constitutional future of the self-governing states should be negotiated.

Transvaal Hospitals 'Back to Normal' After Strike

*MB1405141690 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1339 GMT 14 May 90*

[Text] Pretoria May 14 SAPA—The situation was back to normal at eight hospitals in the Transvaal following

the ending last Thursday [10 May] of the strike by hospital workers, the Transvaal Provincial Administration [TPA] reported on Monday. All the workers who went on strike had returned to work, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] Radio said.

The TPA and the National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (NEHAWU) reached an agreement last Thursday evening, and the union gave an undertaking that the estimated 11,000 mainly non-medical workers on strike would resume duties. A survey by the SABC's pretoria news staff found most workers had resumed duty on Friday, with services back to normal over the weekend.

The hospitals affected were: Baragwanath, Natalspruit, Tembisa, Johannesburg, Hillbrow, H.F. Verwoerd, Middelburg and Tsepong Hospitals.

Minister Vlok: Crime Reaches 'Crisis Proportions'

*MB1005193990 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 10 May 90*

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr. Adriaan Vlok, says that crime has reached crisis proportions in South Africa. Addressing a national security symposium at Vereeniging, he said that the police, the public, and security organizations would have to cooperate in fighting crime. Mr. Vlok said that 128,000 serious assaults had been reported in the past year and that about 32 people were murdered every day.

Referring to the consumer boycott in Welkom, he said that the police would not stand by with folded arms and permit violence to occur. Mr Vlok will visit Welkom today.

Mandela Defends Wife Against 'Persecution'

*MB1405085890 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0600 GMT 14 May 90*

[Text] Nelson Mandela has defended his wife Winnie. Mandela is in Nigeria for a four-day visit, where he will address the Commonwealth foreign ministers' meeting later this week.

Mandela said his wife was, as he put it, the victim of the most scandalous persecution by the government and its agencies. It is Mandela's first comment on the criticism of Winnie. He made no specific reference to allegations that she was involved with her bodyguards' reign of terror.

Chief bodyguard Jerry Richardson is on trial in the Rand Supreme Court for the murder of teenage activist Stompie Seipei. The court has heard evidence that Winnie Mandela was party to Stompie and three others being kept prisoner in her home and had beaten them with whips.

ANC Denies Printing 'Armed Struggle' Leaflet

MB0905065790 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN
in English 8 May 90 p 4

[Text] The African National Congress (ANC) yesterday repudiated a leaflet put out in its name at its rally at the First National Bank Stadium, Johannesburg, calling for an intensification of the armed struggle.

Mr Steve Tshwete, a member of the ANC's national executive committee and an aid to its exiled delegation at last week's historic talks in Cape Town, said the leaflet was contrary to the spirit of both the Cape Town minute—which emerged from the meeting—and what had taken place at Sunday's rally.

The document was issued in the name of the ANC underground in Soweto and, among other things, called upon the people—especially the youth—"to ensure that every corner of the country becomes a battle-ground, every street a trench, and every house a base.

"We have no choice but to continue fighting, weapons in hand," said the document, which purported to have been issued by underground ANC and "MK" members in South Africa. "MK" is an abbreviation for Umkhonto we Sizwe, armed wing of the ANC.

It described the armed struggle as a continuation of the political struggle by military means.

Its language was not that of the ANC, while certain slogans it contained were Pan Africanist in origin.

He said the document, which was in the spirit of neither the talks in Cape Town nor the ANC rally on Sunday [6 May], appeared to be the work of persons intent on creating trouble between the parties involved in the talks.

Mr Tshwete said the leaflet definitely did not emanate from the ANC, and suggested it was the work of agents provocateur.

15 May Press Review on Current Problems, Issues

MB1505130490

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Call To Restrict AWB 'Army'—All the Afrikaner Resistance Movement's (AWB) "sabre rattling" will "add to the concern felt about the possibility of Right-wing attempts to change the course of history by counter-violence or counter-revolution," declares Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 14 May in its page 6 editorial. "We believe that matters have reached a stage where the government should urgently investigate the creation of the AWB's Boere army, its use of uniforms, its training in the use of arms, and its collection of

weaponry. If there is any way in which the Boere army can be restricted, the government should act."

THE STAR

Call To Prosecute Militant Rightwingers—"The growing militancy of loud-mouthed rightwingers is raising the political temperature too high," remarks Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 15 May in a page 10 editorial. "The strutting militants of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging gave a display of their 'fire-power' at the weekend. The result was a series of emotive images and an assortment of intemperate statements." Therefore, "government must act quickly, firmly; not by bannings and detentions but by prosecution in terms of legitimate legislation, of which there is an adequacy. Fiery words fan degenerate actions, which in turn inflame otherwise reasonable people, so ultimately endangering peace for everyone."

BUSINESS DAY

'Ignorant' Call for Sanctions—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 15 May in a page 8 editorial states: "Like generals fighting the last war, various professed opponents of apartheid are demanding maintenance of sanctions on the pretext—a thin one, available only to the ignorant—that all changes in South African society are but cosmetic, or that the National Party may at any moment reverse course and herd the population into Bantustans. Against such obtuse conviction, reason is helpless." "For South African business the choice is clear: if the sanctions lobby is correct, the future is destroyed anyway, and there is no point in chasing after closing markets; if the trading lobby, to coin a phrase, is correct, then the sanctioneers will fall into line in due course. Either way, there is no need to waste time battering against sanctions; all energies should be devoted to cementing relations with those countries, and those trading partners, who have been first to show faith in the future."

SOWETAN

Group Rights New Form of Apartheid—"The Government refuses to abandon the concept of group rights," affirms Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 15 May in a page 6 editorial. The Minister of Constitutional Planning and Development, Dr. Gerrit Viljoen, announced a 12-point plan for "the accommodation of minority rights, in the face of opposition from the majority of South Africans. Apartheid plunged this country into its present crisis, and asking South Africans to accept group rights is asking them to accept a new form of apartheid."

Arms Theft 'Terrifying'—A second editorial on the same page says the theft of more ammunition from the South African Defense Force is "definitely terrifying." "With the right wing now on a virtual war footing, it is time that the army took the threat of it going on the rampage seriously"

CITY PRESS

'Time Up' for White Right Wing—Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English on 13 May in a page 12 editorial finds it "arrogant" on the part of white rightwing elements who "have the audacity to claim the sole and authentic right to our land." "They have been deceived into believing South Africa belongs to them alone, and that they alone can determine the course of events. We want to say to these people that their time is up."

BEELD

U.S. Must Recognize Change, End Sanctions 'Bullying'—"The reaction of more and more European countries to the rapid pace President F.W. de Klerk has given to reform in South Africa is a costly lesson to the United States, which, through its sustained policy of sanctions and disinvestment, refuses to recognize what is taking place here," notes a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 10 May. "While one European country after another is following the British example and easing sanctions against South Africa, the world's most powerful country remains a prisoner of its own sanctioneers, who cannot or will not see that South Africa is undergoing dramatic change and that many of the reasons which earlier existed for sanctions are no longer valid. How the reality of events in South Africa has brought various European countries to new insight is nowhere more clear than the climate of goodwill in which President de Klerk is being received in Europe, even by leaders who until recently had turned their backs on us." "The United States is not doing anything. Meanwhile, some of its largest companies have been forced out of South Africa. They watch the mouth-watering sight of others plucking the fruits of reform. It is time for the United States to stop its bullying and recognize what is taking place here and help build the new South and southern Africa."

Devote 'Considerable Attention' to Group Rights—"The question of group rights in a new constitutional

dispensation will evidently have to receive considerable attention," observes a page 8 editorial in BEELD on 11 May. "First, it is highly controversial, and second, greater clarity is needed over what the various parties understand by the concept. The fact is that South Africa has a diversity of peoples and that in the past this led to discrimination under laws like the Group Areas Act and the Separate Amenities Act. Ironically, the best hope for the general acceptance of group rights is the speedy abolition of such laws. Group rights will be unnecessary in a society where people trust each other. It will be a long time before we reach that stage in South Africa, but opponents and supporters alike ought to behave in such a manner that suspicion does not worsen. Neither threats of economic confiscation nor the other extreme, a return to apartheid, promote this debate."

Treurnicht Must Reject Violence Publicly—A second editorial on the same page declares: "No matter how Dr. Treurnicht explains things, it is as clear as day that the third freedom war he spoke about at Welkom on 9 May is primarily linked to armed struggle." "Yesterday, fortunately, he removed any possible doubt when he said his third freedom war was linked to the African National Congress' armed struggle." "Let those of us who try to live close to the pulse of all South Africans tell him something: sentiments such as his can easily be the signal for Barend Strydoms (tragically misguided people, but mainly supporters of Dr. Treurnicht's Conservative Party) to go into action in the name of the third freedom war or whatever." "We would like to hear and see Dr. Treurnicht speak out unequivocally against violence, nothing more and nothing less."

Reportage on De Klerk Visit to Portugal

WA1505160990

For reportage on the visit by President Frederik de Klerk to Portugal, including a report on his talks with Portuguese Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva, please see the Portugal section of the 15 May West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Angola

MPLA Party Statement Criticizes TV Marti

*MB1505202990 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 15 May 90*

[Text] The MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party Political Bureau condemns the U.S. Government's creation of the so-called TV Marti, which beams to Cuba at a time when significant changes in international relations are taking place throughout the world.

A note from the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau says that throughout the 31 years of the Cuban revolution, Jose Marti's fatherland was always faced with attempts by various U.S. administrations to destroy it at all costs. However, Cuba has managed to resist heroically.

The document adds that, after unforgettable defeats inflicted by the Cuban people upon the U.S. invaders at Playa Giron, the latter failed to learn history's lessons and, instead, continued to search for the most devious maneuvers to (?prevent) the Cuban revolution. Unable to achieve its goals, like the economic blockade that it has been imposing on Cuba for several years now, the United States has resorted to other forms of pressure, including ideological pressure.

The Political Bureau document invites the U.S. Administration to abdicate its aggressive stance against the Republic of Cuba. The Political Bureau notes that that action, which amounts to an ideological aggression and a flagrant interference in Cuba's domestic affairs, is also a gross violation of the norms of international law, particularly the telecommunications convention adopted in Nairobi in 1982 on the utilization of (?domestic) waves, to which Cuba and the United States are signatories.

Opposition: Government Increasing Air Attacks

*MB1605082890 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance
of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and
Central Africa 0500 GMT 16 May 90*

[Text] Troops of the communist Luanda government have stepped up the bombing of the Ionde-Savate front.

According to our correspondent Ngongo Correia, a (?formation) of MiG-23 aircraft dropped four phosphorous bombs on Ndala, south of Caiundo.

The village was burned to the ground and the people's farms were destroyed. However, our correspondent reports that there were no human casualties.

Madagascar

President Cites Casualties in Attack on Radio

*EA1505223590 Antananarivo Domestic Service
in Malagasy 1600 GMT 15 May 90*

[Text] Profane and divisive acts bringing about ethnic confrontations in the country would not be tolerated, said Malagasy President Didier Ratsiraka when he received European journalists this afternoon at Iavoloha State House. During the news conference, the Malagasy president said one soldier and five civilians had died and 44 were wounded during the attempt last Sunday [13 May] to seize the radio building in Anosy.

Mozambique

Renamo Representative Meets Government Official

*MB1505190390 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1400 GMT 15 May 90*

[Text] A representative of the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] resistance movement has met a Mozambican Government official for the first time since the civil war began in 1977.

The Portuguese news agency LUSA says Renamo's finance chief, Sebastiao Temperario, shook hands with the press secretary of the Mozambican Embassy in Lisbon, where they recently discussed the future of the war-torn country.

The meeting was organized by the newly formed Movement for Peace and Democracy in Mozambique. Representatives at the meeting called for immediate talks between the two sides. LUSA says the talks have not started because of differences over a venue.

Ivory Coast

Armed Soldiers Demonstrate in Abidjan Streets

AB1605101190 Paris AFP in English 1003 GMT
16 May 90

Abidjan, May 16 (AFP)—Armed soldiers took to the streets of Abidjan on Wednesday for their second demonstration in the Ivory Coast economic capital this week and some fired in the air, witnesses said. Traders closed shop in the city's Adjame District as troops brandishing weapons took over taxis and buses and forced pump attendants to fill the tanks with petrol (gasoline) without paying, the witnesses said. There were unconfirmed rumours of violence near Adjame railway station.

The incidents followed protests against military living conditions on Monday, in which some 500 young soldiers surrounded the radio and television stations, prompting many people to think that a coup d'etat was under way. The soldiers returned to their barracks after sending a delegation to meet President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

The radio was broadcasting normally on Wednesday and there was no official statement regarding the new troops movements.

Soldiers Occupy Airport

AB1605110590 Paris AFP in French 1052 GMT
16 May 90

[Text] Abidjan, 16 May (AFP)—Troops fired gunshots this morning at the car of Mr. Patrice Vanoni, the French Television TF1 correspondent. Mr. Vanoni told AFP that the incident occurred as he was trying to make his way to the airport, which is being occupied by the soldiers to protest their working and living conditions. He is safe, but at least one bullet hit his car. The soldiers told him that they had taken control of the airport to "prevent ministers from leaving."

Soldiers Surround Radio, TV Stations

AB1605112390 Paris AFP in English 1115 GMT
16 May 90

[Excerpts] Abidjan, May 16 (AFP)—Armed soldiers surrounded the Ivory Coast national radio station and Abidjan airport Wednesday while others took to the streets here, witnesses said. It was the second demonstration by soldiers in the West African country's economic capital this week. One soldier said they were demanding to be re-enlisted in the army after their current service. He said they wanted to remain in the army until age 55 with a monthly salary of 80,000 CFA francs (280 dollars) and "a career plan."

Groups of soldiers, many of them armed, moved through the districts of the capital firing shots in the air, taking over taxis and buses and forcing pump attendants to fill the tanks with petrol (gasoline) without paying. Some of them were firing their guns in the air. [passage omitted]

Some 30 or 40 discontented soldiers armed with machine guns took up positions in the grounds of the television stations. One of them told reporters they wanted better pay and conditions. Meanwhile groups of soldiers, many of them armed, were taken to the streets of Abidjan Wednesday for their second demonstration in the Ivory Coast economic capital this week. [sentence as received] [passage omitted]

Communications Minister Views Draftees' Action

AB1505211890 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN
in French 15 May 90 P 3

[By Leon Francis Lebry]

[Text] It was quite a curious means that was chosen yesterday morning by young military recruits to express their demands to the head of state. Besieging Broadcast House in the early hours of the morning is surely not the usual way used by soldiers who wish to see their living conditions improved and their future guaranteed. And yet that is the way in which these young draftees decided to draw the attention of the president of the Republic to various points. About 100 entered Broadcast House and demanded that a message containing their demands be read on the air. "These young soldiers are ending their national service. They expect to be discharged next July, but hope to reenlist. They feel after two years of training, no professional openings would be available and they would find themselves in the streets, which could be prejudicial to their social life", said the minister of communication who was the first person to talk with them officially. They were, therefore, demanding that Ivory Coast accept their reenlistment so that they could continue to serve in the national army. The second demand of these young recruits, aged 18-25, concerned their living conditions in the barracks, which they feel is mediocre.

The minister of communications pointed out, however, that "they had no ulterior motives; it was purely and simply a matter of finding a remedy for their condition." According to the minister of communication, this precise explanation is all the more necessary because, he observed, "rumors have already been heard purporting that there might have been politics in the move made by these military draftees." He then confirmed that the young draftees "showed correct behavior and great concern about preserving the gains and property of the state, because the equipment of the radio station was not touched."

They were then received by the head of state in the morning.

President Houphouet-Boigny promised them that their situation would be quickly and favorably reviewed.

With these young recruits, as with young Ivorians in general, the head of state has always shown great magnanimity. And in the case of these young soldiers, as in

all other cases, his concern has been to find the solution that would be in the interest of the largest number of citizens.

Public Transport Workers Return to Work

AB1505224390 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 15 May 90

[Text] Abidjan Transport Company [SOTRA] buses reappeared in the streets of Abidjan late this afternoon. After the assurances given yesterday evening by the minister of public works, transport, construction, and town planning, and after fruitful negotiations all this morning with the SOTRA management, the SOTRA drivers and collectors, who had been on strike since yesterday, resumed work this afternoon, to the great satisfaction of commuters. Here is the explanation of the commercial manager of the the transport company, Aka Assafoa, who was interviewed this evening by Jean-Pierre Meah and Frank Aboutte:

[Begin recording] [Assafoa] On behalf of the general management and our managing director, I would like to render our apologies to our customers for all the inconvenience that we created for them during the past two days without work. We have resumed effectively and buses started running at 1600.

[Meah] What were strikers' demands?

[Assafoa] The strikers presented several demands, mainly concerning salaries, social security, and the building of housing for all the employees.

[Aboutte] Is SOTRA ready to meet all these conditions?

[Assafoa] After the negotiations, which were conducted by the minister of public works, construction, and town planning, in the presence of our managing director, a commission was set up. This commission is made up of representatives of the minister, the general management, and the strikers. As of tomorrow, the commission will start to examine all the demands and submit its conclusions to the general management, in the presence of the minister. After examining these conclusions, measures will be taken, in accordance with our resources, to satisfy the demands.

[Meah] This may cause another strike since it was another defeat for the strikers.

[Assafoa] At today's negotiations, the personnel pledged to resume work as usual. The negotiations will be conducted while work is carried on regularly. We can therefore say that there will be no more strikes and that peace has returned to the house. [end recording]

Liberia

Travelers Confirm Rebels Take Yekepa

AB1505131690 Paris AFP in English 1242 GMT
15 May 90

[Text] Monrovia, May 15 (AFP)—Liberian rebels fighting government troops in northeastern Nimba County on Saturday [12 May] captured the mining town of Yekepa some 380 kilometers (240 miles) from here, travellers said Tuesday. The travellers, who escaped to neighbouring Guinea before re-entering Liberia, said the key iron ore mining town fell to the rebels after hours of heavy fighting which forced hundreds of Liberians to flee to border towns in Guinea. They could not give any casualty figures.

Meanwhile, acting Information Minister Moses Washington told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE Tuesday he has not been briefed by the defense minister and could not deny or confirm the reports.

Although newspapers here received the news from several sources, they did not carry the story because of a threat three weeks ago from President Samuel Doe that journalists who reported rebel advances must prove their reports are true or be treated like rebels. But despite the threat the independent STANDARD newspaper, owned and published by former Liberian Justice Minister and Chief Justice Chea Cheapoo, put the story on its front page.

Prior to Saturday's attack, Yekepa was reportedly the only safe place in all of Nimba County, north-eastern Liberia, where rebels of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia launched their bid to oust Mr. Doe on December 24.

Although mining operations at Yekepa came to a halt following an ambush of an iron ore train last month, refugees who had fled to Guinea started returning to the area a week ago. Reports from Yekepa said expatriates were only few days away from a green light from the government to resume mining operations when the town was attacked Saturday.

Analysts here said a long closure of the Yekepa mining company, Liberia's largest, would deepen an already severe economic crisis in the West African state which relies on iron ore for about 70 percent of its foreign exchange earnings. If reports of the take-over are confirmed, rebels would have effectively eliminated all government resistance in northeastern Liberia and would be in a comfortable position to attack more government garrisons in other parts of the country.

The reported rebel gains follow appeals on national radio and television for rebels, led by fugitive former senior civil servant Charles Taylor, to lay down their arms and surrender in five "safety zones."

AFP: Rebels 'Preparing To Besiege' Buchanan

AB1505174690 Paris AFP in French 1650 GMT
15 May 90

[Text] Seata, (south Liberia), 15 May (AFP)—The forces of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), the rebel movement under Charles Taylor's command, are at the gates of Buchanan (less than 100 km from Monrovia), one hour's drive from the capital and it is preparing to besiege it, an AFP special correspondent there observed today.

More than 3,000 combatants are involved in this offensive, it was stated by their chiefs. The most advanced units now control the rubber plantations of the Liberian Agricultural Company (LAC, owned by the American Keene Company), about 20 km from Buchanan, along the railroad that links the port with the Mount Nimba iron mines, northeast of the country.

Moreover, last night, they attacked several government positions in the Grand Gedeh County (in the east of the country), President Samuel Doe's home county, it was announced today by Mr. Taylor. The NPFL, he declared, also controls the towns of Yekepa, Sanniquellie, and Ganta in Nimba County.

Two rebel forces are approaching Monrovia. The first, consisting of more than 1,000 men, has contained the Buchanan region. The second, also with 1,000 combatants, is consolidating its hold on the Gbarnga region, in Bong County, 120 km northeast of the capital.

An attack on the capital is under preparation, it was disclosed by the rebel leaders to a group of Western journalists who observed that the guerrilla fighters are well-armed, including heavy artillery, namely, 106 mm guns mounted on trucks, anti-aircraft guns, machine guns, and three armored cars captured from General Doe's troops. Their leader, Charles Taylor, said that he is counting on a force of 10,000 fighters, with more than half involved in the fighting.

Taylor Urges Doe To Surrender

AB1505195690 Paris AFP in French 1729 GMT
15 May 90

[By AFP special correspondent Christian Spillman]

[Excerpts] Seata (southern Liberia), 15 May (AFP)—The "scorpions," the rebel forces led by Charles Taylor, are at the gates of Buchanan (less than 100 km from Monrovia), one hour away from the capital and they are preparing to attack, an AFP correspondent who went to the scene with a group of journalists observed today.

More than 3,000 combatants of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) are involved in the offensive, according to their leaders. They have chosen the black scorpion as their symbol because their attacks, like the scorpion's, are deadly to their enemy, they affirmed. The forward units now control the Liberian Agricultural Company's (LAC, owned by the U.S. firm Keene) rubber

plantations, about 20 km from Buchanan along the railroad that links the port with the Mount Nimba iron mines in the northeast of the country.

The two "pincers of the scorpion" are approaching Monrovia: the first, (consisting of over 1,000 men), has contained the Buchanan region, while the second (another 1,000 fighters) is consolidating its hold on the Gbarnga region, in Bong County, 120 km northeast of the capital. Preparations for the attack, which Mr. Taylor wants to be "brief, but smashing" are visible.

Journalists noted the NPFL soldiers are very well-armed. Most are equipped with individual automatic weapons, mainly Ak-47 assault rifles of Soviet manufacture and Italian Beretta submachine guns which they claim to have seized from the enemy. [passage omitted]

Mr. Taylor says his forces number over 10,000 soldiers, with over half already involved in the fighting. "For the moment, we are not attacking towns because we want to avoid bloodshed," the 42-year old former top official stated on Sunday [13 May] at a news conference organized at the premises of the Baptist radio station in Tapeta (210 km north east of Monrovia), occupied by the rebels since 23 March. Converted to Radio NPFL now, it has been broadcasting on mediumwave since this morning.

An ally of the military in the overthrow of President Tolbert on 12 April 1980, Mr. Taylor is today their most ferocious adversary. "There is no way out of this conflict except to capture President Doe, dead or alive," he added. "There is no compromise. We will do all in our power to capture him," he asserted. Mr. Taylor does not, however, underestimate his enemies. Two battalions of government forces, 1,200 men, have been stationed in Monrovia to ensure the protection of the Robertsfield International Airport, situated 55 km east of the capital.

"Our problem is that many people believe the authorities when they say that everything is normal and that our men have fled," he said. "As soon as we are sure that enough people have evacuated the capital, we will then attack," he concluded. [passage omitted]

According to their commanders, the "scorpions" are facing undisciplined soldiers who are unmotivated and capable of carrying out "barbaric" acts, such as the massacre of 35 villagers on 9 May at Seata and Kpue, two small villages located some kilometers away from the plantations. Decaying bodies lay in a grave near the first houses in the village and a bit off the untarred road. Many women and children were among the victims, the AFP journalist noted.

During this operation, 46 people were wounded, with 26 in serious condition undergoing treatment at the LAC hospital. Among these are two babies under two, who were hit by bullets, and a child about 10 with one of his arm cut off. The accounts given by survivors are devastating to the government forces, whose soldiers are

presented as "real brutes" who "did not hesitate to rape a 13-year-old girl or crush the arm of a 3-month-old baby with their boots."

The "barbaric acts" of the government troops has reinforced the determination of Mr. Taylor's "freedom fighters," who are in a hurry to overthrow President Samuel Doe, in power since 1980 and against whom they have fought since 24 December 1989. Mr. Taylor, who is convinced of his movement's victory, on Sunday advised President Doe to surrender and asked his troops to lay down their arms. He assured them of a "speedy and fair" trial, a measure that Mr. Doe never envisaged when the military seized power in 1980.

Nigeria

127 Soldiers Arrested After Coup Attempt Freed

AB1205115890 Paris AFP in English 1148 GMT
12 May 90

[Excerpt] Lagos, May 12 (AFP)—The authorities have freed 127 officers and other-ranking soldiers arrested after the foiled coup against President Ibrahim Babangida on April 22, press reports said here Saturday.

The reports cited an army monthly, THE TIGER, which said 200 other soldiers were still being held for interrogation. THE TIGER is published by the Second Mechanized Infantry Division based in Ibadan, Nigeria's second largest town, some 150 kilometres (95 miles) northeast of the capital.

Shortly after the coup attempt against the military government, the army had announced the arrests of 14 officers, 200 other ranks and some 200 civilians. [passage omitted]

Commonwealth Secretary Views Dept, Coup Attempt

AB1205174590 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] The secretary general-designate of the Commonwealth, Chief Emeka Anyaoku, has called on the international community to assist developing nations to solve their debt problems. He made the call at Dodan Barracks yesterday after holding brief discussions with President Ibrahim Babangida.

Chief Anyaoku said that the debt problem had deprived many African nations of the opportunity of financing their development projects. He remarked that without the debt burden, people on the continent could improve their living standards through a healthier economy.

Chief Anyaoku joined many other distinguished Nigerians in condemning the recent abortive coup. He said it could have been a great tragedy to the nation if the situation had not been contained.

Senegal

'Concern' Over Iraqi Missile Site in Mauritania

LD1405110390 Paris International Service
in French 0630 GMT 14 May 90

[Excerpt] There is concern in Senegal over the military links between its neighbor, Mauritania, and Iraq. Senegalese President Abdou Diouf is certain that there is an Iraq project to build a military base in Mauritania, more precisely a long-range missile test site.

Abdou Diouf is to bring the question up in the United States with President George Bush. Mauritania has already denied any such project, and Iraq has made no comment. [passage omitted]

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17 May 1990

